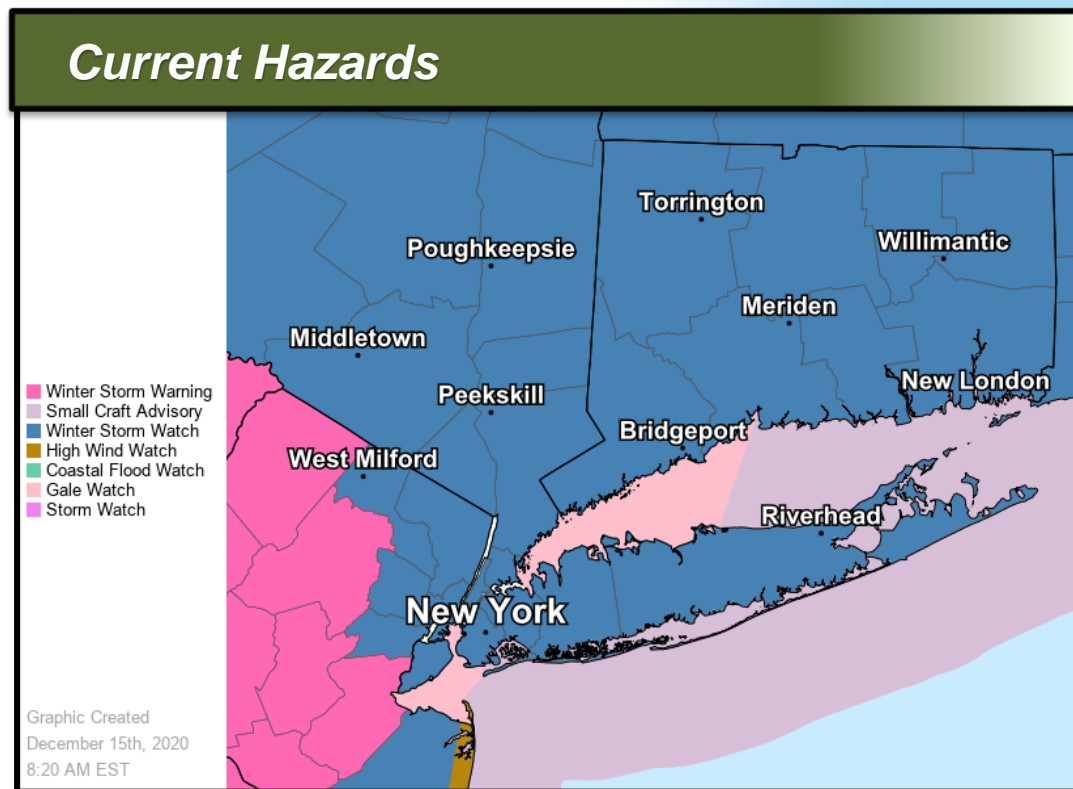


# Major Winter Storm Wed PM-Thu AM






**Decision Support Briefing #2**  
**As of: 600 AM Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

## What Has Changed?

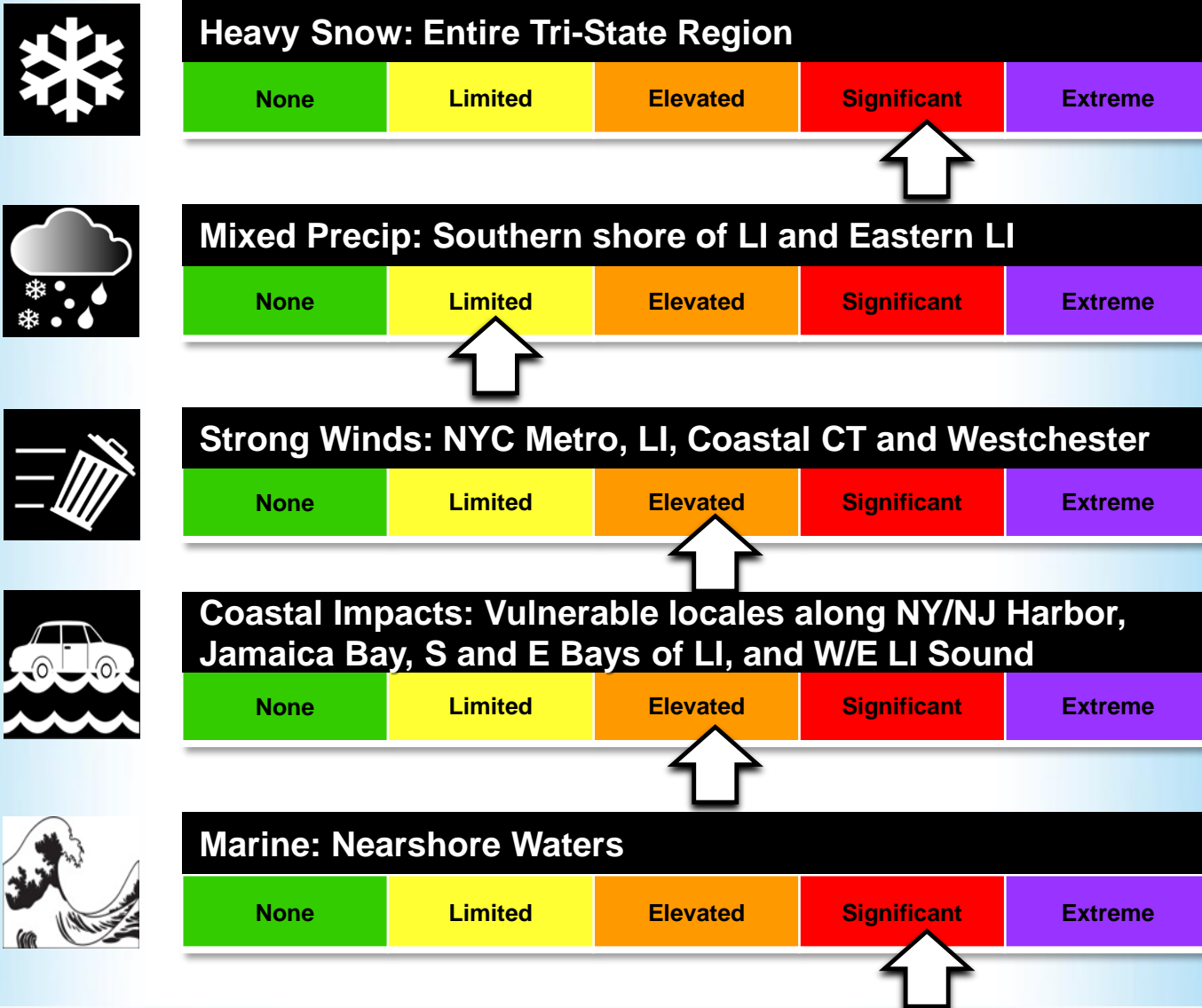
- ✓ Gale Watch now in effect Wed. into Thurs. for all waters
- ✓ Snowfall totals increased across eastern Long Island
- ✓ Winter Storm Watch remains in effect for the Entire Tri-State region Wednesday Afternoon into Thursday Morning



## Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
<b>Heavy Snow</b> 8-12" Local 12-18" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snowfall rates of 1-2 inches/hr possible.</li> <li>Blizzard conditions possible along coast.</li> <li>Difficult travel.</li> </ul>	Much of Tri-State Region Highest amounts N&W of NYC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snow develops Wed PM</li> <li>Heavy snow Wed Night</li> <li>Snow tapers off Thu AM</li> </ul>
<b>Snow/Sleet</b> 5-10" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some sleet could mix in with snow at times.</li> <li>Difficult Travel.</li> </ul>	Southern and Eastern Long Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snow develops Wed PM</li> <li>Snow/Sleet Wed Night</li> <li>Snow tapers off Thu AM</li> </ul>
<b>Strong Winds</b> 20-35G50mph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scattered downed tree limbs and power lines.</li> <li>Blowing and drifting of snow.</li> </ul>	City and Coast.  Lighter winds Interior – 15-20g30mph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wed Eve into Thu AM</li> </ul>
<b>Coastal Impacts</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor to Moderate coastal flooding possible.</li> <li>Inundation of 1 to 3 ft above ground in most vulnerable areas.</li> <li>Scattered Dune Erosion/Isolated overwashes</li> </ul>	Highest threat of moderate for W LI Sound, South Shore Bays of LI and Queens, and Twin Forks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wed Eve – Minor to locally Moderate</li> <li>Thu AM- Minor to Moderate</li> </ul>
<b>Marine</b> 30-45G55mph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gales likely, Storm Conditions possible</li> </ul>	All Coastal Waters	Wed eve into Thu AM

# Summary of Greatest Impacts



# Heavy Snow

## Hazards:

- ✓ **Much of the Region** - 8-12" of snowfall likely. Potential for 12-18"
  - ✓ Snowfall rates: 1-2"/hr Wed Eve/Night
  - ✓ Visibility: ¼ mile or less at times
  - ✓ Temperatures: Upper 20s to Lower 30s for city/coast. Lower to Mid 20s Interior.
- ✓ **N&W of NYC** – Highest prob for a swath of 12-18"
- ✓ **SE LI** - 4-8" of snow and sleet

## Impacts:

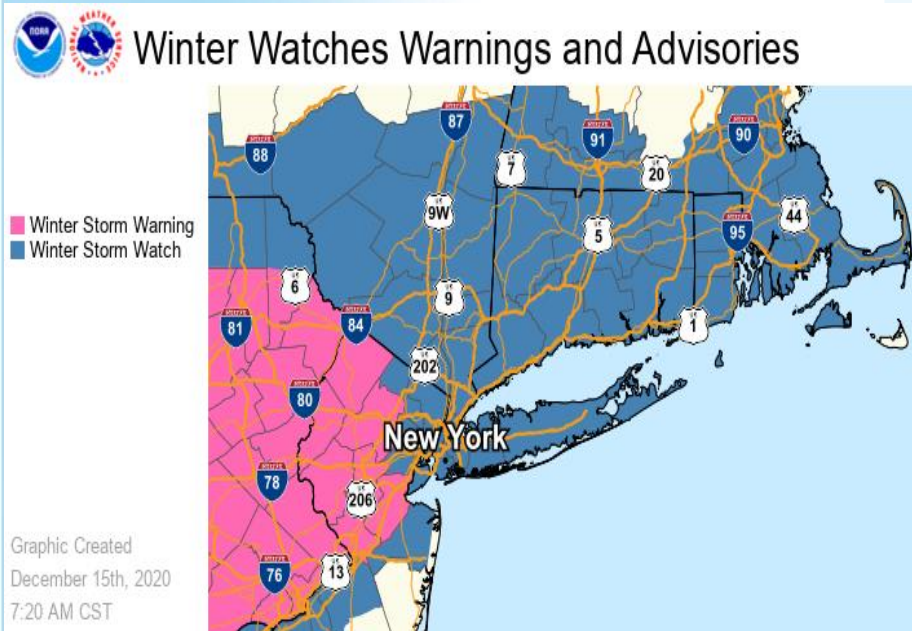
- ✓ Difficult travel Wed Eve into Thu AM
- ✓ Scattered downed tree limbs and power outages
- ✓ Blizzard conditions possible at times Wed Night for coast

## Timing:

- ✓ Snow develops Wed aft
- ✓ Heavy snow Wed Eve into Wed Night
- ✓ Snow taper off Thu AM

## Forecast Challenges:

- ✓ Uncertainty in how far north sleet mixes in along coast. Highest probability across southern and eastern portions of Long Island.
- ✓ Location of heavy snow banding and swath of 12-18" of snow.

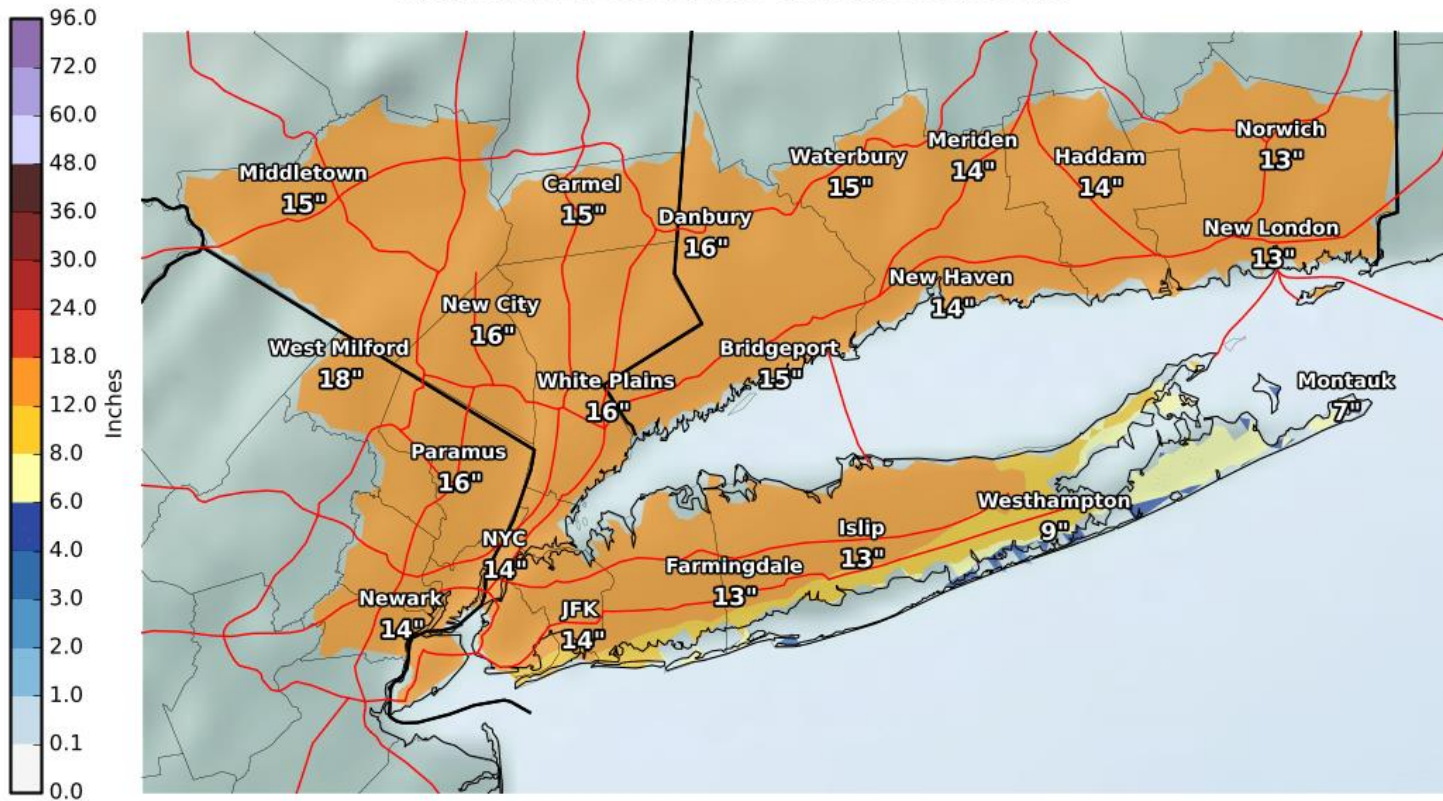




# Most Likely Snowfall – Official Forecast

## Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast

Valid: 12/16/2020 01:00 PM - 12/17/2020 07:00 PM



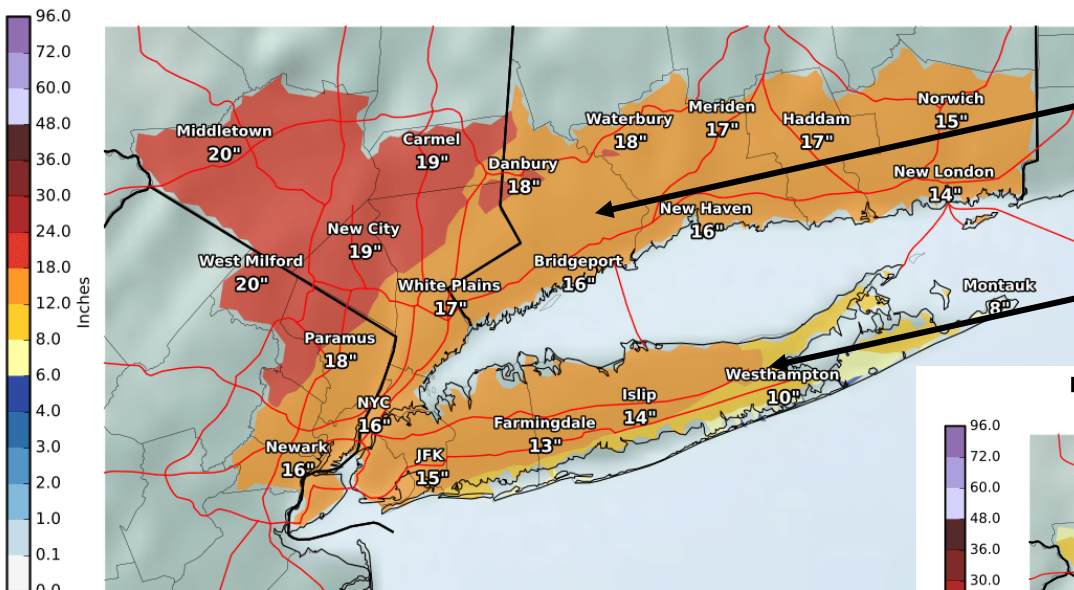
**National Weather Service**  
New York NY  
12/15/2020 04:03 AM EST

**Follow Us:** [weather.gov/nyc/winter](https://www.weather.gov/nyc/winter)

## Probabilistic Snowfall Forecast

### High End Amount - 1 in 10 Chance (10%) Of Higher Snowfall

Valid: 12/16/2020 01:00 PM - 12/17/2020 07:00 PM

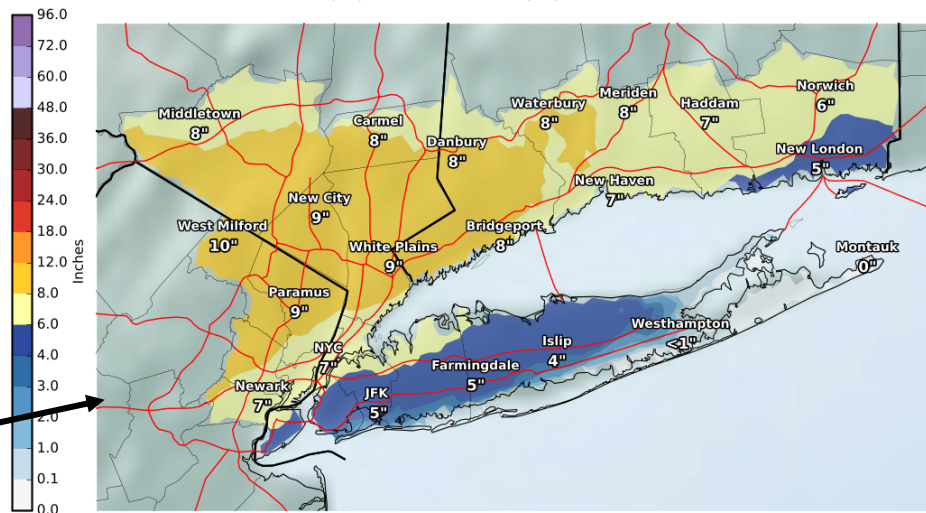


Snow amounts could be this high in spots where heavy snow banding is most persistent.

Or...If there is no mixing with sleet across SE LI

### Low End Amount - 9 in 10 Chance (90%) Of Higher Snowfall

Valid: 12/16/2020 01:00 PM - 12/17/2020 07:00 PM

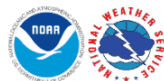


Expect at least this much snow



**National Weather Service**  
New York NY  
12/15/2020 04:04 AM EST

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[weather.gov/](http://weather.gov/)



**National Weather Service**  
New York NY  
12/15/2020 04:03 AM EST

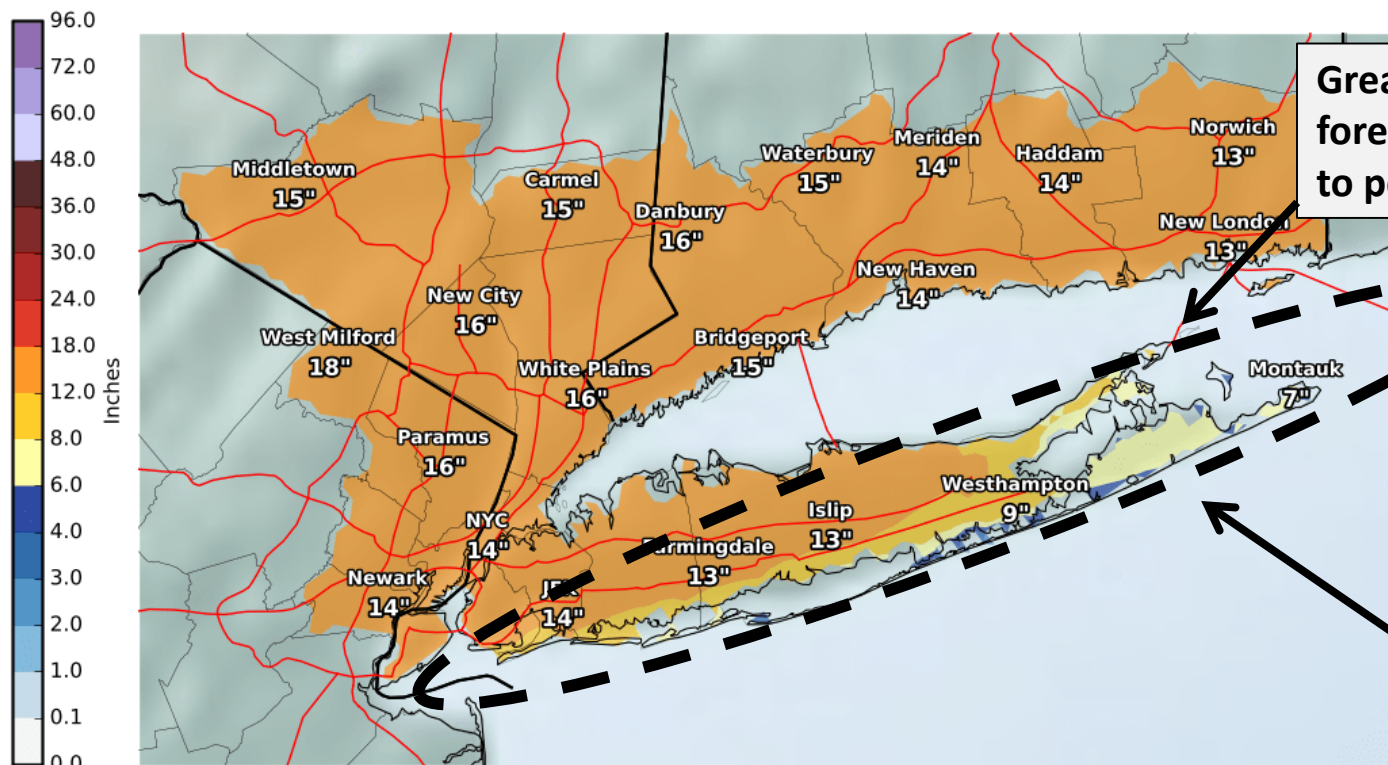
**Follow Us:** [weather.gov/nyc/winter](http://weather.gov/nyc/winter)



# Snow/Sleet Line Uncertainty

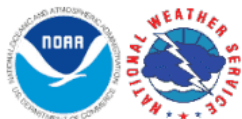
## Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast

Valid: 12/16/2020 01:00 PM - 12/17/2020 07:00 PM



Greatest uncertainty in forecast snowfall amounts due to potential sleet.

A storm track *closer* to the coast will increase the potential for sleet mixing in along the coast Wed Night.



National Weather Service  
New York NY  
12/15/2020 04:03 AM EST

Follow Us:



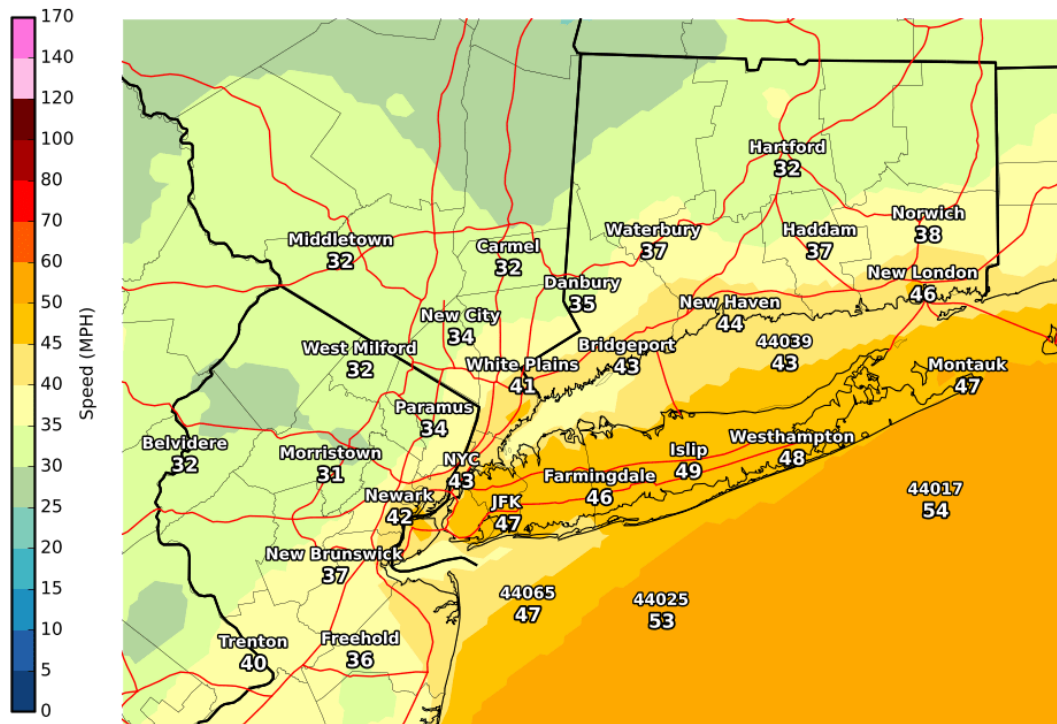
[weather.gov/nyc/winter](https://weather.gov/nyc/winter)



# Strong Winds

## Maximum Wind Gust (MPH)

Valid: 12/15/2020 04:00 AM - 12/20/2020 04:00 AM EST



## Hazards:

- ✓ **Eastern Long Island**
  - ✓ NE winds 25-35mph with gusts to near 50 mph
- ✓ **NYC & Coast**
  - ✓ NE winds 25 to 30 mph with gusts to 45 mph
- ✓ **Interior**
  - ✓ NE 15-20 gusts to 35mph

## Impacts:

- ✓ Scattered downed tree limbs and power lines
- ✓ Near blizzard conditions along portions of the coast

## Timing:

- ✓ Wed Eve into early Thu AM



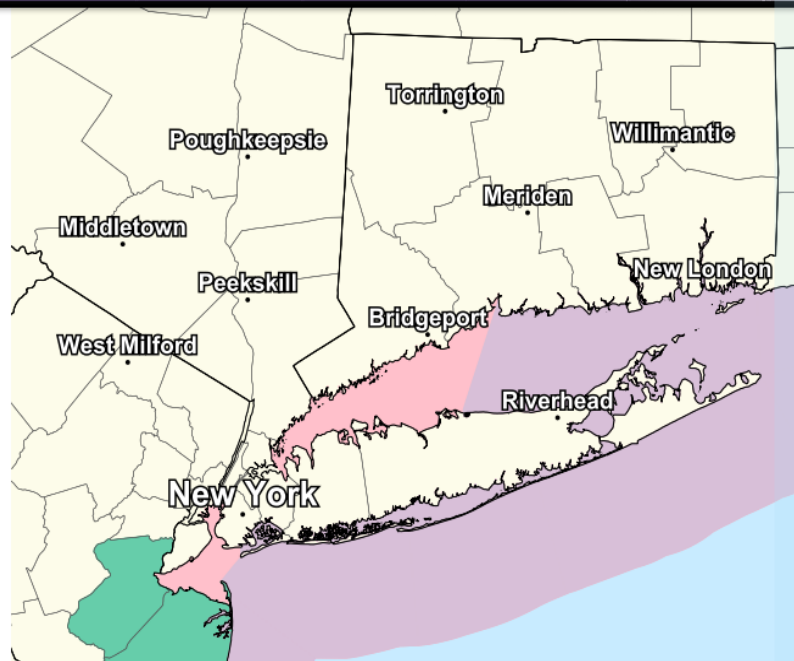
**National Weather Service**  
 New York NY  
 12/15/2020 04:15 AM EST

Follow Us:     
[weather.gov/nyc](https://weather.gov/nyc)



# Coastal Flooding

## Marine / Coastal Hazards



Please go to the NWS New York, NY Coastal Flooding Page for the latest coastal flood forecast and the tools to visualize the coastal impacts.

<https://www.weather.gov/okx/coastalflood>

## Coastal Flood Hazards and Impacts:

- ✓ Minor to locally moderate coastal impacts possible Wed PM (1-1½ ft inundation)
  - ✓ Low threat of moderate along W LI Sound due to 3-5 ft wave action
- ✓ Moderate coastal impacts possible Thu AM. (2-3 ft inundation)
  - ✓ South shore bays of Queens and LI
  - ✓ Several waterfront road closures and potential property damage

## Shoreline Hazards and Impacts:

- ✓ 5-8' breaking waves along the oceanfront, 3 to 6' along LI sound shoreline and Twin forks.
- ✓ Widespread beach erosion and flooding. Scattered areas of dune erosion and isolated washovers along oceanfront Wed PM into Thu AM.
- ✓ Minor damage to shoreline structures possible along W LI Sound Wed PM.

## Timing:

- ✓ During times of high tide Wed PM and Thu AM

## Event Summary

- ✓ **Winter Storm Watch in effect for entire area for Wed Afternoon into Thursday Morning**
  - ✓ Heavy Snow (8-12") potential for Much of the Region
    - ✓ A swath of 12-18" of snow possible
    - ✓ 1-2"/hr snowfall rates Wed Eve/Night
    - ✓ Blizzard conditions possible along the coast
  - ✓ Sleet could mix in across southern and eastern portions of Long Island, holding down amounts (5-10")
- ✓ Strong Winds for the City/Coast
  - ✓ 20-35mph with gusts to 40-50mph
- ✓ Minor to locally moderate coastal flood potential Wed PM
- ✓ Minor to moderate coastal flood potential with Thu AM high tides
- ✓ **Gale Watch in effect for all waters Wed Afternoon into Thursday Morning**
  - ✓ 30-45mph with gusts to 55mph